

(approved November 9, 2000)

**BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
CONSUMER SERVICES/CONSUMER PROTECTION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

AUGUST 24, 2000

**HYATT REGENCY MONTEREY
ONE OLD GOLF COURSE ROAD
MONTEREY, CA**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Selma Fields, MFT Member, Committee Chair
Christina Chen, Public Member
Virginia Laurence, Public Member
Howard Stein, Public Member

MEMBERS ABSENT

STAFF PRESENT

Sherry Mehl, Executive Officer
LaVonne Powell, Legal Counsel
Julie McAuliffe, Administrative Analyst

GUEST LIST ON FILE

The meeting was called to order at 11:50 a.m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

VIRGINIA LAURENCE MOVED, CHRISTINA CHEN SECONDED, AND THE COMMITTEE CONCURRED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE MAY 18, 2000 MINUTES. HOWARD STEIN ABSTAINED.

2. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING MANDATING CONTINUING EDUCATION IN LAW AND ETHICS

Ms. Fields stated that at the May 2000 meeting a constituent had requested that the Board look into mandating continuing education in law and ethics.

David Fox, MFT, stated that he thought that licensees, especially individuals who have been licensed for many years, would benefit from a six-unit course in law and ethics every renewal cycle.

Mary Riemersma, Executive Director of the California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists, stated that although the association recognizes the importance of law and ethics, they would generally oppose adding additional continuing education mandates on licensees.

Steve Gibson, LCSW, suggested that law and ethics be a mandated continuing education course for every renewal cycle.

Lydia Blanchard, MFT, stated that she thought that there is more than one way to address the issue of law and ethics.

Dr. Stein stated that he agreed that law and ethics should be required.

After discussion, Ms. Mehl suggested that staff draft language to mandate law and ethics continuing education coursework. Ms. Fields suggested law and ethics coursework every six years. Ms. Mehl stated that she would research if this mandate needed to be added to the law or by regulation, draft language options based on Committee and audience suggestions, and bring back to the Committee in November.

3. ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS

The most recent statistics were provided to the Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.